region of the polyp, are of a very dark brown colour, upon which there is a pure white collar, formed of spicules with a peculiar crystalline texture, in no respect resembling the ordinary spicules. Below the œsophagean region the colour of the polyp becomes much lighter; the tube becomes almost translucent, and allows the lines of insertion of the septa to be traced. Then the colour deepens again to the point of union.

From this description it will be seen that we have to do with an animal perfectly distinct from *Paralcyonium*, although it is with that form that it presents the most affinities. *Fascicularia*, I think, must form the type of a third subfamily, the Fascicularinæ, intermediate between the Cornularinæ and the Alcyoninæ, into which, at present, it is generally agreed to divide the family Alcyonidæ.—*Comptes Rendus*, July 16, 1888, pp. 186, 187.

### *On the Resemblance of the Primitive* Foraminifera *and of Ovarian Ova.*

Prof. Ryder remarked that upon cutting sections of nearly mature ovarian ova with their investing membrane, zona radiata, in place, it was found that, in quite a number of cases, fine protoplasmic processes or pseudopods extended from the peripheral layer of protoplasm of the egg, through its capsule or zona, and joined the cells of the granulosa or discus proligerus. This arrangement reminded one forcibly of the filamentous pseudopods extended from a Heliozoön, or of the slender pseudopods extended through the perforations in the walls of the single chambers of *Globigerina*. This resemblance is all the more suggestive if one will compare a section of one of the chambers of a *Globigerina* made through the calcareous shell and its contained protoplasm with a similar section through the ovum of the Gar Pike, where the zona is formed of pillars of homogeneous matter. Such prolongations of pseudopods through the investing zona radiata, in the case of many species of animal forms, shows fairly well that this must be the principal means by which new matter is taken up from without and incorporated, as there is no direct extension of the vascular system into the egg, by which it can take up nutriment. It is thus seen that the early stages of the growing ovum not only resemble some of the lower forms of Heliozoa and Foraminifera as respects the grade of their morphological differentiation, but also as to the mode in which they exhibit their nutritive or physiological activities. This resemblance is still further heightened if a form like *Orbulina* is compared with certain stages of the development of ova. It is thus seen that, in many cases, the ovarian germ, at least, passes through a stage which may be morphologically as well as physiologically compared with some of the lowest grades of the Protozoa.—*Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad.* Feb. 14, 1888, p. 73.